**Human Subjects Assistance Program**

Information Sheet

**What is the Human Subjects Assistance Program (HSAP)?**

The HSAP is a discretionary University of Washington (UW) program. It may provide financial assistance, upon request and on a “no fault” basis, to research study participants who have a qualifying research-related medical problem that is likely caused by their participation in UW-conducted research.

**What assistance is available?**

Assistance for research-related medical problems may include:

* Waiver of charges for healthcare at a UW Medicine healthcare facility. The UW may waive the charges for care, up to a total of $250,000 in combined charges, based on established facility and practitioner charges at the time the care is provided.
	+ UW Medicine healthcare facilities for this purpose are: UW Medical Center, Harborview Medical Center, UW Primary Care Clinics, and UW Husky Health Center.
* Reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses or other healthcare. The HSAP may reimburse you for up to $10,000 upon submission of receipts, for:
	+ Out-of-pocket expenses associated with receiving treatment, or
	+ Medical treatment at non-UW Medicine healthcare facilities, if you are unable or choose not to receive medical treatment at a UW Medicine healthcare facility as defined above.
* Additional reimbursement or assistance. Additional expenses or assistance in excess of no-fault limits detailed above may be considered by the Claims Services unit of UW’s Compliance & Risk Services department.

**What medical problems are eligible for assistance?**

The following criteria are assessed for HSAP assistance:

* Whether the medical problem is more likely than not directly caused by the research
* The nature of the UW’s involvement in the research
* Who is paying for the research
* The nature of the medical problem
* The timing of the medical problem relative to the research procedure that caused it
* Any other relevant circumstances related to the problem and the research participant.

The HSAP does not apply to medical problems that are due to:

* The normal problems due to any disease or medical condition you already have;
* Ordinary patient care, such as the standard treatment for your disease or condition;
* Substantial or deliberate failure to follow the instructions of the researcher.

**How do I request the assistance?**

First, follow the researcher’s instructions for obtaining treatment. Then your medical problem and your request to access HSAP must be reported to the UW Human Subjects Division (HSD). The researcher will submit the HSAP request. You can also contact the UW Human Subjects Division by phone (206-543-0098) or by email (hsdreprt@uw.edu) if you have questions about your eligibility for assistance.

**Are there any limits to the HSAP?**

Yes. The HSAP is a discretionary program that is available at the sole discretion of the University of Washington, and there are limits on the amount of assistance available as noted above.

Reimbursement payments for out-of-pocket expenses or treatment received at a non-UW Medicine healthcare facility are made after any coverage by health insurance or other third-party payor has been applied. No advanced reimbursement payments can be made under HSAP. You must first make any payments for treatment you receive and then submit receipts of payment to receive reimbursement.

You may be responsible for expenses not covered by the program. Also, the HSAP does not provide payment for:

* Lost wages, lost time, or pain or suffering
* Expenses covered by the National Vaccine Injury Compensation program

<https://www.hrsa.gov/vaccine-compensation>

* Expenses covered by the federal Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act, under the Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program

<http://www.hrsa.gov/cicp/faq/requesters.html>

* Expenses that are covered by a national health service or national health insurance in a country other than the United States

**Who can answer my questions about the HSAP?**

You can ask the researcher or research staff. You can also read the full official description of the HSAP at this website <https://www.washington.edu/research/policies/human-subjects-assistance-program-2/>. You can contact the UW Human Subjects Division by phone at 206-543-0098 or by email to hsdreprt@uw.edu.